

Title: Demanded extradition of Shri Prabhakaran, the chief of LTTE and an accused in the murder case of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): Sir, we cannot but remain indifferent to the political development across Palk Strait given the geo-strategic implication of that Island nation. Sir, for years together, they are conspiring to destabilise the Indian Government as also our society.

Sir, recently under the aegis of Norwegian Government, a peace initiative has been set up ostensibly to bring about peace and tranquillity in that Island nation. However, we cannot forget the fateful day of 21st May, 1991. On that day, the impeccable and noble soul of India, our beloved leader, and former Prime Minister, late Rajiv Gandhi was blown to pieces.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a conspiracy hatched in the Jaffna Peninsula. Shri Prabhakaran has been declared as a proclaimed offender. He was very much involved in this assassination. We cannot accept him as an apostle of peace.

Therefore, I would urge upon this House to pass a resolution demanding the extradition of Shri Prabhakaran. What Ms. Jayalalithaa can do, can we not do? It is a shame that till now the Government is playing hide and seek with the people of India. The Government should come out with a clear statement of what is its stand insofar as the extradition of Shri Prabhakaran is concerned.